

*not used*

Def. Doc. #2037

Exh No.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al

- v -

ARAKI, Sadao, et al

AFFIDAVIT

Deponent: TAKAYAMA, Hikoichi

1. I was a Staff Officer of the 37th Army in North Borneo from September 1944 till the termination of the war.

My last rank was Colonel.

Now I live at No. 89, Minami-Kuruwamachi, Maebashi-shi, Gunma Pref.

2. It was about the end of May 1945 when the 37th Army was Transferred from the direct control of the South Seas Expeditionary Army and put under the command of the 7th Area Army.

3. In spite of the change of command as stated above the Prisoner of war Camp of North Borneo was directly controlled by the Headquarters of the South Seas Expeditionary Army and was not under the control of the 37th Army. The chief of the POW Camp received orders directly from the Headquarters and was in charge of the management of POW's.

The 37th Army Commander was entrusted with supply to troops within the limits of the regulations of the Commander-in-Chief of the South Seas Expeditionary Army and was authorized to order the chief of the POW camp on necessary measures to be taken in case of necessity for guard, air-defence, etc. in connection with the duty of defence. It was

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however not within this capacity to interfere in the management of the POW camp or the treatment of POW's, the responsibility for which was assumed by the Chief of the POW Camp.

4. About January 1945 the Commander of the 37th Army received instructions from the Commander-in-Chief of the South Seas Expeditionary Army to move the main forces of the Army, then stationed in the north east of Borneo, to the west coast of the Island.

In accordance with the instructions, the Commander of the 37th Army ordered the main forces stationed on the east Coast of Borneo to move to the west coast and this order was carried out. At the same time he ordered the transfer of POW's of the Allied Forces in the vicinity of Sandakan to a basin near Ranan (phonetic) from the view point of defence taking into consideration the danger of bombings and the pressing food situation in the Sandakan District. The Ranan area was then comparatively safe and self-sufficient in food. The transfer of the POW's was carried out on two occasions in February and May 1945.

5. About May 1945 bombing by the Allied Forces became so intense that the communication by sea between North Borneo and French Indo-China, Malay, etc. was entirely cut off and also that by air was in great difficulty.

The Keningo (phonetic) air-field was employed for the use of planes acting as liaison between the Army Headquarters and the outside but it took about one day to go between the Headquarters and the air-field. Although the telephone was operated between the points, it was frequently broken.



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Only radio was available for communication with the 7th area army, but the apparatus was frequently broken as the machine had been removed from JESSELTON just before that time. Besides that owing to the shortage of fuel and batteries communication schedule hours were greatly cut down. Thus the communication was run in an extremely inefficient way, and was limited solely to the matters of ~~most~~ ~~with~~ importance. Even this was often interrupted. The situation grew worse as the war neared its end.

on this 2 day of Aug. 1947

At 1947

DEPONENT TAKAYAMA Hikoichi (seal)

I, SASAGAWA Gomoji, hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Deponent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this Witness.

On the same date, at the same place.

Witness: /S/ SASAGAWA Gomoji

OUTH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to talk the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/S/ TAKAYAMA Hikoichi

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自分儀我國ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ツ別紙ノ通り官督ヲ爲シタル上  
次ノ如ク供述致シマス

官督供述書

供述者 高山彦一

荒木貞夫 其他

對

亞米利加合衆國 其他

極東國際軍事裁判所



供 述 者

高 山 彦 一

一、私ハ一九四四年九月カラ終戦時マデ北ボルネオニ於ケル第三十七軍參謀デアリマシタ

終戦時ニ於ケル私ノ階級ハ陸軍大佐デアリマシタ

私ハ目下群馬縣前橋市南曲輪町八九ニ居住致シテ居リマス

二、第三十七軍ガ南方總軍ノ直轄カラ第七方面軍ノ指揮下ニ移サレタノハ

一九四五年五月末頃デアリマシタ

三、北ボルネオノ俘虜收容所ハ前記指揮權ノ移動ニ關ハラズ南方總軍直轄トナツテ居リ第三十七軍ノ管理下ニナカツタ俘虜收容所長ハ南方總軍ノ直接指揮ヲ受ケテ俘虜ノ管理ニ當ツテキタノデアリマス

第三十七軍司令官ハ南方總軍司令官ノ規定スル所ニ基キ定メラレタル範  
圍ニ於ケル給養ヲ擔任セシメラレ又防衛ノ任務ニ關聯シ必要ノ場合警備  
防空等ニ就テ所屬ノ措置ヲ俘虜收容所長ニ命令スル權限ヲ與ヘラレテキ  
タガ收容所ノ管理、俘虜ノ取扱等ニハ干涉スルコトハ出來ナカツタノデ

アリマス

四、第三十七軍司令官ハ一九四五年一月頃南方總軍司令官カラ當時ボルネオ東北部ニ在ツタ軍主力ヲボルネオ西海岸ニ移動スル様ニ命令ヲ受ケマシタ

之ニ基キ第三十七軍司令官ハボルネオ東海岸ニ配置サレテキタ軍主力ヲ西海岸ニ移動スル命令ヲ出シ實行セシメマシタ又同時ニサンダガン附近ニアリマシタ連合側軍俘虜ハ同地附近ガ爆撃ヲ蒙ツテ危險ナルト且食糧事情切迫シテ居ツタノニ鑑ミ防衛上ノ見地カラ之ヲラノウ附近ノ盆地ニ移ス命令ヲ下シマシタ俘虜ノ移動ハ一九四五年二月ト五月ノ二回ニ分ケテ實施サレマシタラノウ附近ハ當時比較的安全デアリ且食糧自給ガ出來ル地方デアツタカラデアリマス

五、一九四五年五月頃ハ連合軍側爆撃熾烈トナリ北部ボルネオヨリ佛印マライ等ノ各地ニ對スル海上連絡ハ全然朴絶シ飛行機ニ依ル連絡モ極メテ困難ナル狀況ニ在リマシタ



又第三十七軍司令部ト外地トノ飛行機連絡ハ「ケニシゴ」飛行場  
ヲ使用シテ居リマシタガ同飛行場ハ軍司令部位置ト連絡ニ約一日ヲ要  
シ又電話ガアリマシタガ之モ屢々不通ニナツテ居ル様ナ狀況デシタ  
第七方面軍トノ連絡ハ専ラ無線電信ヲ利用シテ居リマシタガ之モゼ  
ツセルトシヨリ移動シタバカリナノデ屢々故障ヲ生シ且燃料及電池不  
足ノ爲通信時間ニ大ナル制限ヲ加ヘザルヲ得ザル狀況ニ在ツテ連絡ハ  
極メテ不完全テ極緊要ノ連絡ノミニ止メテキマシタ之モ屢々杜絶スル  
狀況デシタ終戦頃ニ到リマシテハ此ノ狀態ハ一層惡化シテ居リマシタ

Doc. No. 101000

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）八月二日 於東京

供 述 者 高 山 彦 一

右ハ當立會人ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ署名捺印シタルコトヲ證明シマス

同 日 於 同 所

立 會 人 佐 々 川 知 治



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2007. 10. 17 19:00

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良心ニ從ヒ眞實ヲ述ベ何事ヲモ默秘セズ又何事ヲモ附加セザルコトヲ

官  
審  
書

署名捺印

高  
山  
彦  
一